

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Withdrawn) Multilayered strip, comprising an upper layer (12) consisting of a thin metal strip, whose upper face (22), constituting an outer face of said multilayered strip, has a structure in the form of a three dimensional relief (18) and whose underside (24) is provided with a reinforcement layer (14), wherein:

the reinforcement layer (14) is made of plastic and the reinforcement layer is extrusion-coated on the upper layer (12), which already carries an embossed structure in relief (18).

20. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the structure in relief has sharp edges.

21. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the upper layer (12) has a thickness of ≤ 1 mm.

22. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the structure in relief (18) has a depth of ≤ 0.5 mm.

23. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) has a thickness of ≤ 1 mm.

24. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) contains fibers, for reinforcement.

25. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) comprises polyvinylchloride (PVC), acrylnitrilbutadienstyrol (ABS), polyamide (PA) or polypropylene (PP).

26. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein an additional, transparent plastic layer (16) is arranged on the upper face of the upper layer (12), which additional layer (16) is loosely bonded to the upper layer (12) in such a way as to be detachable by hand.

27. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the additional plastic layer (16) has a thickness of ≤ 0.5 mm.

28. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein a protective varnish is applied to the upper face (22) of the upper layer (12) and/or an adhesive varnish is applied to the underside (24) of the upper layer (12).

29. (Currently Amended) Method for the production of a multilayered strip[[],] comprising an upper layer consisting of metal [(12)], with the method comprising the following steps:

a. Inserting a thin embossing a metal strip as the upper layer (12') to form the upper layer into an embossing unit (30) and embossing a structure in the form of a to form a three-dimensional relief [[(18)]] into [[the]] an upper face [[(22)]] of the upper layer (12), metal strip; [[and]]

b. then extrusion-coating fixing a plastic reinforcement layer consisting of plastic [[(24)]] only on to the lower side of the upper layer (12) metal strip; and

c. releasably fixing an additional plastic layer to the upper face of said metal strip, said additional plastic layer being loosely bonded to the metal strip so as to be detachable by hand.

wherein said multilayered strip is dimensionally stable.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 35, wherein the upper layer [[(12)]] runs like as a slack loop in the area of the loop-like arrangement [[(50)]].

32. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim [[51]] 29, wherein in steps (b) and (c) further comprises the extrusion-coating of an additional plastic layer (16), said additional plastic layer (16) being loosely bonded to the upper layer (12) in such a way as to be detachable by hand said plastic reinforcement layer and said additional plastic layer are fixed to said metal strip by extrusion-coating.

33. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 29, wherein a protective varnish is applied on the upper face [[(22)]] of the upper layer [[(12)]] prior to embossing the structure in relief.

34. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 51, wherein an adhesive varnish is applied to the underside [[(24)]] of the upper layer [[(12)]] prior to embossing the structure in relief [[(18)]].

35. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 29, wherein the reinforcement layer [[(14)]] is attached after the upper layer [[(12)]] passes through at least one loop-like arrangement [[(50)]], wherein the loop-like arrangement is located after embossing of the structure in relief [[(18)]] and prior to attaching the reinforcement layer [[(14)]].

36. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 35, wherein the upper layer [[(12)]] is stopped during embossing of the structure in relief [[(18)]] in the embossing unit [[(30)]] employing an upper stamp (32) and a lower stamp [[(34)]].

37. (Withdrawn) A multilayered strip according to claim 19 wherein the multilayered strip is a decorative strip.

38. (Withdrawn) A multilayered strip according to claim 19 wherein the metal is aluminum.

39. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 wherein the metal is aluminum.

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29 wherein the multilayered strip is a decorative strip.

41. (Withdrawn) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the upper layer (12) has a thickness of ≤ 0.4 mm.

42. (Withdrawn) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the structure in relief (18) has a depth of ≤ 0.2 mm.

43. (Withdrawn) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) has a thickness of ≤ 0.6 mm.

44. (Withdrawn) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) contains mineral fibers for reinforcement.

45. (Withdrawn) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein an additional, transparent plastic layer (16) is arranged on the upper face of the upper layer (12), wherein the transparent layer comprises polyvinylchloride (PVC), acrylnitrilbutadienstyrol (ABS), polyamide (PA) or polypropylene (PP).

46. (Withdrawn) A strip in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the additional plastic layer (16) has a thickness of ≤ 0.2 mm.

47. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 29, wherein the reinforcement layer contains fibers.

48. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 47, wherein the fibers are mineral fibers.

49. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 29 wherein the reinforcement layer is sufficiently dimensionally stable to prevent expansion and/or deformation of the strip.

50. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 29 wherein the strip has the flexibility to adapt to curved substrates.

51. (Previously Presented) The method in accordance with claim 36 wherein the reinforcement layer has a thickness range of about 0.6 mm to 1mm.

52. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the three-dimensional relief [[(18)]] is embossed on the thin metal strip [[(12')]] by pressing the upper stamp [[(32)]] on the associated complementary formed lower stamp [[(34)]].

53. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 52, wherein the thin metal strip [[(12')]] forms a downward hanging loop [[(52)]].

54. (Currently Amended) Method for the production of a multilayered strip, comprising an upper layer consisting of metal [[(12)]], with the method comprising:

inserting a thin metal strip [[(12')]] to form the upper layer into an embossing unit [[(30)]] and embossing a structure in the form of a three-dimensional relief [[(18)]] into the upper face [[(22)]] of the upper layer [[(12)]], and

b. fixing a reinforcement layer to the lower side of the upper layer; and

c. releasably fixing an additional plastic layer to the upper face of the upper layer, said additional plastic layer being loosely bonded to the metal strip so as to be detachable by hand;

wherein a reinforcement layer consists of plastic [[(24)]] and is only on the lower side of the upper layer-(12), and wherein said multilayered strip is dimensionally stable.

55 (New) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein said additional plastic layer contacts said metal layer.